This document is a portion of the *Cruise Ship Discharge Assessment Report* (*Assessment Report*), published on December 29, 2008. The reference number is EPA 842-R-07-005. The entire Assessment Report can be accessed at http://www.epa.gov/owow/oceans/cruise_ships/disch_assess.html.

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December 29, 2008

EPA842-R-07-005

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Cruise Ship Discharge Assessment Report

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Oceans and Coastal Protection Division
Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds

Office of Water
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
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December 29, 2008

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND DISCLAIMER

Today's Cruise Ship Discharge Assessment Report (Assessment Report) does not substitute for any statute or regulation, nor is it a regulation itself. The document assesses five primary cruise ship waste streams: sewage, graywater, oily bilge water, solid waste, and hazardous waste. For each waste stream, the Assessment Report discusses the nature and volume of the waste stream generated; existing federal regulations applicable to the waste stream; environmental management, including treatment, of the waste stream; potential adverse environmental impacts of the waste stream; on-going actions by the federal government to address the waste stream; and a wide range of options and alternatives to address the waste stream from cruise ships in the future. Discussion of existing regulations in this Assessment Report does not represent the consummation of the Agency's decision-making on the matters discussed. By its terms, the Assessment Report itself does not impose binding requirements on any party. The regulations themselves, not the Assessment Report, govern parties' legal obligations.

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